

SWIFT DISCUSSES REPORTS PACKERS ARE TO BREAK UP

Attorney-General Palmer Expected to Announce Agreement to Dissolve All Interests Except Meat.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Dissolution of the wholesale grocery interests of the "big five" packers would not seriously affect any of them, Louis F. Swift, head of Swift & Co., said today in discussing a report that A. Mitchell Palmer, United States attorney-general, would announce today or tomorrow an agreement of the packers to dissolve all interests except those involved in production of meat, poultry, butter, eggs and cheese. The meat canning, soap making and fertilizer side lines would not be affected, Mr. Swift said.

Tanning interests of Swift & Co. were dissolved last summer, Mr. Swift said, when a new corporation known as National Leather, was formed. Of the other members of the group known as the "big five," Wilson & Co. announced some time ago it had disposed of its branches of industry affiliated with the wholesale grocery business, and Armour & Co. several weeks ago were reported to have begun arranging a plan looking to segregation and separate financing of its more than 100 subsidiary properties.

"I know nothing about a statement that the packers consented to the decision because of the assurance that the government would win its dissolution suit against the United States Steel corporation," Mr. Swift continued. "I have never heard of any such report."

"I am unable to comment upon the effect this decision or agreement will have upon foodstuffs prices. Whether they will decrease or go still higher remains to be seen."

"This decision probably means that the packers must discontinue their wholesale grocery interests. The dissolution of these interests will not seriously affect Swift & Co., nor any of the packers, for these interests are comparatively small."

"Since the reported decision enjoina dealing in food commodities other than the products of animals, the meat can-

ing, soap making and fertilizer side lines can not be affected.

SCHOOL TAX URGED FOR MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—The general board of trustees of Mississippi's higher institutions of learning, in their biennial reports to the legislature, strongly urge the adoption of a millage tax as the basis of support for the colleges.

In other words, the educational leaders desire to have a specific portion of the state tax levy set aside each year for the support of the colleges, to be apportioned by the general board according to the needs of the various institutions, and to be paid to the president of each institution to spend practically the entire period of the legislative session in Jackson lobbying for adequate recognition.

The plan is also strongly endorsed by the incoming governor, and it will no doubt receive full consideration before appropriations for the next biennial period are made for any of the colleges.

JACKSON MAN TELLS OF SOUTH AMERICA

JACKSON, Tenn., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—J. G. Watson read an exceptionally interesting paper on "Rotary in the South American Countries" at the regular weekly meeting of the Jackson Rotary club, held last night in the club's suite of rooms in the Y. M. C. A. building. His speech was highly gratifying to the members present and brought forth repeated applause. Miss DeShong favored the club with a vocal solo.

A committee was appointed to make investigations relative to the establishment of a playground for the children of the city.

SENATORIA-COLDWATER ROADS IMPASSABLE

SENATORIA, Miss., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—The main roads leading out from Senatoria and Coldwater have become impassable, and the farmers are finding it almost impossible to finish marketing the crops. This condition is brought about by the recent bad weather and the fact that there are now 12 different contractors at work on the \$2,000 grading contract let by the board of supervisors in November.

The condition of the roads will not be better until the spring of next year. One hundred miles of road will be graded and gravelled.

NEW OBSTACLES MAY BLOCK D'ANNUNZIO'S WITHDRAWAL

ROME, Dec. 12. (By the Associated Press.)—Obstacles to the withdrawal of Capt. Gabriele D'Annunzio's forces (brought about a new turn in the Italian situation yesterday and may block acceptance of proposals made by Gen. Radoglio, Italian chief of staff. Strong pressure is being exerted by a large number of soldiers who wish to remain in Fiume until formal annexation to Italy is promised, and there are also various elements of the annexationists waiting stronger guarantees, even insisting that the present garrison be maintained here as a regular Italian garrison under the command of D'Annunzio.

Feeling is running at highest pitch with the plebeians being held today. A meeting was held last evening to discuss various phases of the question. It was announced an open only to citizens of Fiume, but it was packed with officers who donned citizens' clothes to gain admission. Most of the rest of the audience was made up of women and girls.

MISSISSIPPI SOLONS TO RATIFY SUFFRAGE

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—Gov. Hilde, in his final message, and Governor Russell, in his inaugural address, will both urge the Mississippi legislature to ratify the Susan B. Anthony amendment conferring suffrage on women.

The two recommendations, it is believed, will carry considerable weight with some of the lawmakers who are either lukewarm on the question or mildly opposed to ratification of the amendment.

The suffragist leaders are proceeding quietly with their organization, and will have a corps of workers in the capital city immediately after Christmas to launch the campaign. Headquarters have been secured and the fight will be waged in a businesslike manner.

BOYS ARRESTED.

JONESBORO, Ark., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—Ben Hollingsworth and another young boy by the name of Schmeiser, were arrested on a charge of breaking into the grocery store of D. L. Vaden last Wednesday night and were taken to the county jail upon finding some of the stolen articles.

CUBAN SENATE APPROVES PEACE TREATY WITH HUNS

HAVANA, Dec. 12.—Approval of the treaty of peace with Germany was unanimously voted by the Cuban senate last night. The pact cannot be brought before the house before Jan. 15, when the Cuban congress will reconvene, following the Christmas holidays.

Strong opposition is expected in the house, where a number of representatives, especially liberals, oppose its consideration until final action is taken on the treaty by the United States senate.

BOY REPORTED KILLED RETURNS TO JONESBORO

JONESBORO, Ark., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—Eugene Douglas, a Jonesboro boy, reported killed in action in France in one of the last battles fought before the signing of the armistice, has returned to Jonesboro much alive and enjoying the best of health.

It was Eugene Douglas, of Memphis, in the same company with the Jonesboro boy that was killed.

Mothers—Flumonia Fuming Salvo for croupy children, 25c.

SCHOOL CHILDREN HELP JACKSON'S RED CROSS

JACKSON, Tenn., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—The school children of Jackson are lending their assistance today in the nation-wide campaign to stamp out tuberculosis with the local campaign by placing the Red Cross Christmas seals on sale in each of the public schools of the city. Chairman Thomas P. Cade states that the school children of the city are energetic supporters of the antituberculosis campaign, states Chairman Cade. The parents are asked to supply their children with money with which to buy the Red Cross seals. These seals are sold for one cent each and the purchaser may take any number he desires.

Jackman will receive an educational nurse who will begin work in this county Jan. 1 and make a survey of all tubercular patients under the direction of the state board of health, provided the local campaign is successful. It was stated by Chairman Cade today. In the event this nurse is sent to Jackson a careful record will be made of each tubercular patient in the county and the proper treatment prepared for each particular case. In addition to this phase of the work planned in the eradication of the disease the necessary measures will be taken to prevent the spread of the disease and to cure if possible these patients which are now affected with the disease, as stated in the purpose of the campaign.

TREZEVANT BAPTISTS GO OVER TOP ON DRIVE

TREZEVANT, Tenn., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—The local Baptist church has gone over the top in the \$75,000,000 campaign recently put on by the Southern Baptists. To quota for the local church was \$15,000, and this amount and several hundred dollars additional has been paid in and subscribed and there are a number of members who have not yet been heard from and the pastor, Elder I. H. Riley, confidently expects that the amount will be increased to about \$15,000 when all members send in their pledge cards. Central association, to which the church belongs, has also gone over with her quota of \$200,000.

CHILDREN MAY HAVE NEW CITY PLAYGROUND

The children who live in the northern section of the city, along North Main street and the intersecting streets between Jackson and Greenlaw avenues, are going to have a new playground. W. B. Fowler, city engineer, deserves credit for the idea of converting an old dumping ground owned by the city along the bayou, facing on North Main, between Saffarans and Greenlaw, into a children's park. He suggested that the park commissioners and they are willing to take charge of the property and to aid in beautifying it and to turn it over to the recreation commission. The latter body will, of course, be glad to have a playground in that locality, where hundreds of poor families live, whose children cannot well get to any of the other playgrounds. The nearest is old Market square.

The city commission, at Mr. Fowler's request, passed a resolution Wednesday afternoon formally offering the strip of land to the park commission. It lies north of the municipal swimming pool. The entire tract will be converted into a playground under the supervision of the recreation commission.

Buy her a sewing machine for Christmas. Buy a sewing machine for Christmas. Buy a sewing machine for Christmas.

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE AGENTS ORGANIZING

All details incident to the formation of the national council, Brotherhood of Industrial Insurance Agents, have been completed and headquarters of the national body established at Memphis. National officers selected are: J. H. Hays, president; Charles W. Wright, first vice-president; R. C. Fain, secretary; G. H. Hays, treasurer; J. E. Harrell, chairman national grand council; and J. W. Hensley, national organizer.

The Memphis council has a membership of more than 200, and the organizers expect to have a membership of at least 100,000 in the national body by the end of 1920.

CHARGED WITH ROBBERY.

JONESBORO, Ark., Dec. 12. (Sp.)—Elmer Stegman, John Upton and Walter Grime, three white men, were arrested yesterday on a charge of robbing a car at Nettleton. These men are held awaiting developments. The officers think probably these men are wanted elsewhere.

LANE'S CABINET BECAUSE OF BIG SACRIFICE

Real Reason for Secretary's Decision to Resign is Given in Detail by Expert—Disposes of Vague Rumors.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE.
(Special Correspondent of The News-Scimitar.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Franklin K. Lane, probably the best-liked man in the Wilson administration in both Republican and Democratic circles, is to leave the cabinet because he can no longer continue in public life at a personal sacrifice.

Mr. Lane intended saying nothing publicly about the matter until he had an opportunity to consult the confidence of President Wilson, for he did not wish to make the transition in the interior department difficult for a successor, nor did he wish to hurry the president into naming a new secretary of the interior. But an unauthorized publication of a story to the effect that Mr. Lane had already resigned led him to issue a statement, saying that, while he had not even written his resignation, he did contemplate going out of the cabinet.

All sorts of stories have arisen as to the reasons which prompted Mr. Lane to withdraw, reasons extending from alleged difference with President Wilson on the league of nations to a supposed dissatisfaction with the handling of the coal situation. Both stories are incorrect. The secretary of the interior last night made an earnest speech at a private gathering in Washington, discussing the league of nations. Furthermore, his plans to withdraw from the cabinet, it now develops, were known to several friends, including newspaper correspondents, before the recent coal crisis occurred.

On the other hand, it is a fact that Franklin Lane and Woodrow Wilson have not always been in accord. The secretary of the interior always has been known to get into private quarrels with the president, and it cannot be said that in the last two years the judgment and advice of the secretary of the interior have been as potent a factor with Mr. Wilson as earlier in the administration.

In Close Harmony.

This, however, never led to any ill feeling. On the contrary, the president and Secretary Lane worked in the closest harmony when the industrial conference recently was in session, and in the recent message of the president to congress he gave public notice of the principal measures which the interior department has been championing.

At bottom, the controlling reason for Mr. Lane's intended resignation is a personal one. The end of his service in the Wilson cabinet would come within a year, even if he decided to remain till the end of the present administration, for even if the Democrats were to be continued in power, it would not be likely that Mr. Lane would want to stay in public office any longer.

So he is in the same frame of mind as members of other cabinets have been at the end of an administration was approached. Messrs. Gregory and Hays decided to get into private business. Secretary McAdoo felt that the needs of his family were such that he had to get out and make some money. It will be remembered that many a cabinet officer has complained that he could not stand the pace in Washington on \$15,000 a year.

For Franklin Lane, there is really no future in public life. He ran for governor of California about a decade ago, and was appointed to the Interstate Commerce commission by President Roosevelt. He resigned from the commission to become secretary of the interior in Mr. Wilson's cabinet. He is the only Democrat of prominence who can truthfully say that men as opposed to Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson were his close friends.

This was because, while a Democrat, Mr. Lane has always been progressive, and it was his boast after the 1912 campaign that he carried to the cabinet meetings of the Wilson administration a copy of the Bull Moose platform, and when 1916 came he used to point with pride to the fact that under the first Wilson administration many planks in that Roosevelt platform had been embodied into law or recommended by the Wilson administration.

Rather Be Editor.

When one says there is nothing further in public life for Franklin Lane, the natural thought is of elevation to the presidency. But Mr. Lane was born in Canada, and is ineligible under the constitution for the presidential job. He could run for United States senator in California, but there is little doubt that Mr. Lane believes he has reached the highest point of public service in the opportunities given him while a member of the cabinet. He has been mentioned for appointment as associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, but there are no longer any vacancies.

But Franklin Lane has often told his friends that he would rather be the editor of a chain of newspapers or of a prominent newspaper that carried influence in public affairs than to be president of the United States, even if he were eligible for the post. Originally a newspaper editor in Tacoma, Mr. Lane has never lost his news instinct.

His annual report recently won the admiration of Republican and Democratic newspapers for the excellence of its style and the simplicity of its expression. Mr. Lane likes to what business he may enter when he does leave the cabinet, the guess would be the writing business.

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